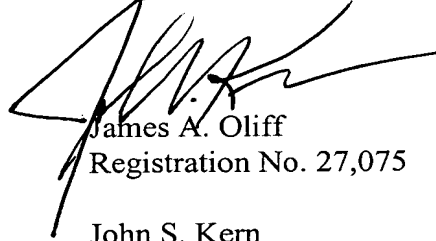


REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment, the Abstract and specification are replaced with an amended Abstract and substitute specification, and claims 1-11 are amended.

Prompt and favorable examination based on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

John S. Kern
Registration No. 42,719

JAO:JSK/kap

Attachments:

Amended Abstract
Substitute Specification
Marked-up copy of Specification

Date: October 4, 2004

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
AUTHORIZATION**

Please grant any extension
necessary for entry;
Charge any fee due to our
Deposit Account No. 15-0461